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ABSTRACT

This publication is part of a series of monographs on the art of teaching. Each volume, focusing on a specific discipline, explores theory in the context of teaching strategies Three techniques for using the series: dialogues (as self-evaluation and in study groups), shop talk (review of current professional literature), and teacher-to-teacher field notes (tips and experiences from practicing educators). This volume, containing four chapters, focuses on the role of assessment. Chapter 1, "Understanding Authentic Assessment," defines six principles of authentic assessment with specific examples, and discusses the role of continuous professional growth. Chapter 2, "We Assess To Learn and Teach," looks at the purpose of assessment, the learning cycle--coming to know (the purpose of learning), showing you know (the products of learning), and knowing you know (reflections); and five kidwatching perspectives to enable teachers to understand students and their needs at various points in the learning cycle--monitoring, observing, interacting, analyzing artifacts, and reporting. Chapter 3, "Assessment Tools for Learning and Teaching," examines and describes specific tools and forms for each stage of the kidwatching cycle evaluation. Chapter 4, "Purposeful Portfolios," discusses the development and use of portfolios and how portfolios can help students engage in effective self-reflection. Guidelines for creating, implementing, and using portfolios are included; a math portfolio is given as an example. A list of professional associations and publications is included. (Contains 43 references.) (ND)

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